



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 09/859,576

Confirmation No.: 4313

In re Application of:

Shinya KADONO

Group Art Unit: 2137

Filed: May 18, 2001

Examiner: Paul E. Callahan

For: INFORMATION EMBEDDING METHOD, INFORMATION EXTRACTING
METHOD, INFORMATION EMBEDDING APPARATUS, INFORMATION
EXTRACTING APPARATUS, AND RECORDING MEDIA

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 24, 2005, applicant hereby provisionally elects, with traverse, to prosecute the claims of Group I (claims 1-8, 11-14, 35 and 36) in this application.

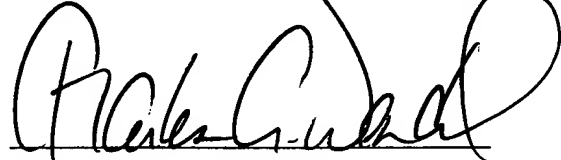
However, applicant respectfully traverses the restriction requirement since the subject matter of all of claims 1-8, 11-14, and 17-36 is sufficiently related that a thorough and complete search for the subject matter of the elected claims should

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encompass a thorough and complete search for the subject matter of the non-elected claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 which states that "[i]f the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits." It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to applicant and improper duplicative examination by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Respectfully submitted,

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March 17, 2005

Date

CAW/mhs

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